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1MMEDIATE RELEASE
February 16, 1956

James C. Hagerty, Press Secretary to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President has signed an Executive Order providing for the establishment of a National Defense Executive Reserve to be composed of persons selected and trained for employment in executive positions in the Federal Government during periods of emergency. The creation of a civilian reserve of this kind was authorized by section 8 of the 1955 amendments of the Defense Production Act of 1950.

The Order requires the Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization to institute and administer the program and coordinate the establishment of Executive Reserve units in various Federal agencies.

Under the Order, agencies designated by the ODM Director would have authority to select persons from private life and from the Government to serve in such units. Selection and training of the executive reservist would be carried out in accordance with regulations and standards set up by ODM.

Activities of persons by reason of their designation as reservists under the order are not to include action or advice on any matter pending before an agency. The order exempts reservists from the conflict of interest statutes only with respect to their mobilization training activities.

The act - section 710(e) of the Defense Production Act, as amended, - permits members of the executive reserve who are not full-time Government employees to receive transportation and not to exceed \$15 per diem in lieu of subsistence while away from their homes or regular places of business for the purpose of participating in the executive reserve training program.

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EXECUTIVE ORDER

PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE EXECUTIVE RESERVE

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including sections 703(a) and 710(e) of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended (50 U.S.C. App. 2153(a); 2160(e)), and as President of the United States, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. There is hereby established in the executive branch of the Government a National Defense Executive Reserve to be composed of persons selected from various segments of the civilian economy and from government to be trained for employment in executive positions in the Federal Government during periods of emergency.

Section 2. The Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization is hereby directed to institute and administer the Executive Reserve program; to coordinate the activities of other agencies in establishing units of the Reserve; to provide for appropriate standards of recruitment and training; and to issue necessary rules and regulations in connection with such program.

Section 3. The Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization in carrying out his responsibilities under this order may utilize the services of other departments and agencies in the maintenance of agency and centralized rosters and in the development of training programs and materials.

Section 4. Heads of departments and agencies of the Government designated by the Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization, after appropriate consultation, are authorized to establish units of the Executive Reserve and to select and designate persons to serve as members of the units.

Section 5. Activities of persons by reason of designation as Executive Reservists under this order shall not include acting or advising on any matter pending before any department or agency but shall be limited to receiving training for mobilization assignments under the Reserve program. With respect to activities as so limited, reservists who are not full-time Government employees shall be exempt from the operation of sections 281, 283, 284, 434, and 1914 of Title 18, United States Code, and section 190 of the Revised Statutes (5 U.S.C. 99).

Section 6. The Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization shall report to the President annually, and at such other times as may be appropriate, on the progress made in the development and operation of the Executive Reserve program.